

These military operations have been carefully planned to accomplish our goals with the minimum loss of life among coalition military forces and to innocent civilians. It is not possible to know at this time either the duration of active combat operations or the scope or duration of the deployment of U.S. Armed Forces necessary to accomplish our goals fully.

As we continue our united efforts to disarm Iraq in pursuit of peace, stability, and security both in the Gulf region and in the United States, I look forward to our continued consultation and cooperation.

Sincerely,

George W. Bush

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to J. Dennis Hastert, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Ted Stevens, President pro tempore of the Senate. An original was not available for verification of the content of this letter.

**Message to the Congress
Transmitting a Report on the
National Emergency With Respect to
Persons Who Commit, Threaten To
Commit, or Support Terrorism**

March 21, 2003

To the Congress of the United States:

As required by section 401(c) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c), and section 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), I transmit herewith the 6-month periodic report prepared by my Administration on the national emergency with respect to persons who commit, threaten to commit, or support terrorism that was declared in Executive Order 13224 of September 23, 2001.

George W. Bush

The White House,
March 21, 2003.

NOTE: An original was not available for verification of the content of this message.

**Digest of Other
White House Announcements**

The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

March 15

In the morning, at Camp David, MD, the President had separate telephone conversations with Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi of Italy and Prime Minister Tony Blair of the United Kingdom to discuss the situation in Iraq.

Also in the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.

March 16

In the morning, the President traveled to Lajes Field Air Force Base in the Azores, Portugal, where, in the evening, he had dinner with Prime Minister Jose Manuel Durao Barroso of Portugal, President Jose Maria Aznar of Spain, and Prime Minister Tony Blair of the United Kingdom.

In the evening, the President returned to Washington, DC. While en route aboard Air Force One, he had separate telephone conversations with Prime Minister John Howard of Australia and Secretary of State Colin Powell.

March 17

In the morning, the President had separate telephone conversations with Prime Minister Tony Blair of the United Kingdom, President Jose Maria Aznar of Spain, and King Juan Carlos of Spain to discuss the situation in Iraq.

Also in the morning, the President had intelligence and FBI briefings and met with the National Security Council and Secretary of State Colin Powell.

In the afternoon, the President had a telephone conversation with Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld to discuss possible military action against Iraq.

In the evening, in the Roosevelt Room, the President met with members of Congress to discuss the situation in Iraq.